

# Modes of C Major

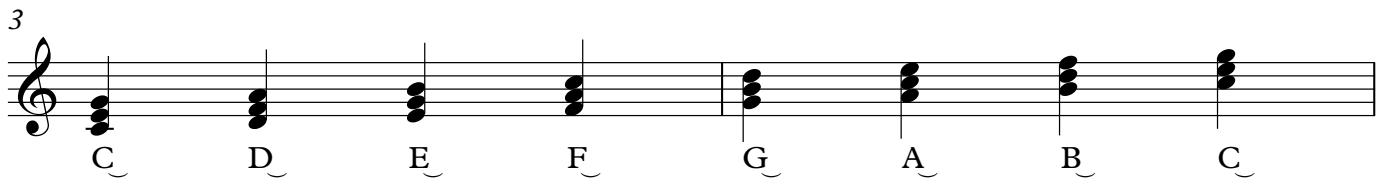
You may have heard of modes before? Modes are the original scales in Western Music history and still do to this day. The modes of C Major are the best way to start getting our heads around modes as there are no sharps or flats to keep track of.

The mode used the most in contemporary music is the **Ionian** mode, but we know it most simply as the major scale. Lets figure out how far apart each note is from the other by counting the semitones or frets between each note.

For example there are 2 **Semitones** (= to 1 **Tone**) between C and D. now lets figure out the rest



Each note within C Major can have two notes added to become a triad chord of the same name, but! They each have different tonalities (Major or Minor) which is going to give a big hint to the tonalities of the modes. Figure out if the diatonic triads below are major or minor by the interval distance between each note

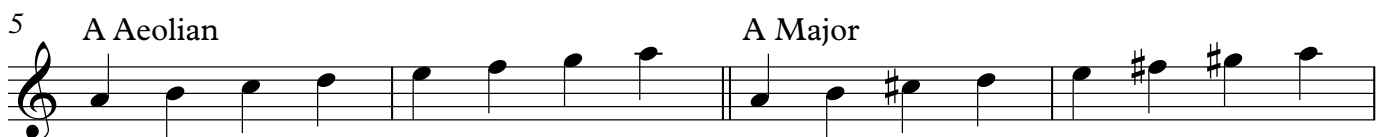


The next Mode used the most in contemporary Music is the Aeolian Mode, known simply as the Minor scale or its modern full name as the Natural Minor Scale.

Here we have 'A Aeolian/A Natural Minor' and to the right we have an 'A Major Scale'.

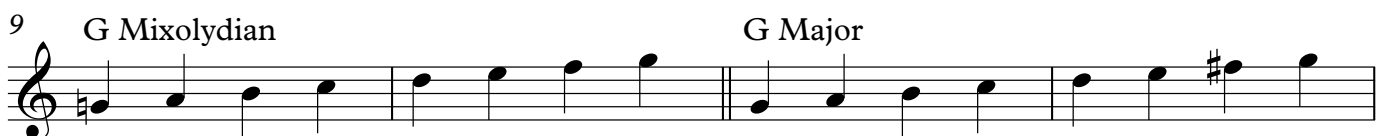
Both of these scales start on the same note but contain different accidentals.

Compare the A Minor Scale to the Major Scale and see which notes have been lowered to make the Minor Scale



Now we'll do the same exercise as above, with G Mixolydian and the G Major scale.

Compare the notes and see which notes have been lowered in the Mixolydian Scale



- 2 The remaining modes are listed by the amount they are used in contemporary music. You might have also noticed that there are numbers next to each mode, these represent the scale degree of C major that they start on. for example D would be the 2nd note therefore the second mode, F would be the 4th note and so on.

13 D Dorian (2nd Mode) D Major

The D Dorian (2nd Mode) scale is shown on a treble clef staff, starting on D4 and ascending to D5. The notes are D, E, F, G, A, B, C, D. The D Major scale is shown on a treble clef staff, starting on D4 and ascending to D5. The notes are D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D.

15 F Lydian (4th Mode) F Major

The F Lydian (4th Mode) scale is shown on a treble clef staff, starting on F4 and ascending to F5. The notes are F, G, A, B, C, D, E, F. The F Major scale is shown on a treble clef staff, starting on F4 and ascending to F5. The notes are F, G, A, Bb, C, D, E, F.

17 E Phrygian (3rd Mode) E Major

The E Phrygian (3rd Mode) scale is shown on a treble clef staff, starting on E4 and ascending to E5. The notes are E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E. The E Major scale is shown on a treble clef staff, starting on E4 and ascending to E5. The notes are E, F#, G#, A, B, C#, D#, E.

19 B Locrain (7th Mode)

The B Locrain (7th Mode) scale is shown on a treble clef staff, starting on B4 and ascending to B5. The notes are B, C, D, E, F, G, A, B. The scale is marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Now its time to play through them all if you havent already. do all exercises and scales at 50pm

21 Modes of c major

The first three modes of C major are shown on a treble clef staff, starting on C4 and ascending to C5. The notes are C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C. The modes are labeled I-Ionian, II-Dorian, and III-Phrygian.

24

The last four modes of C major are shown on a treble clef staff, starting on C4 and ascending to C5. The notes are C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C. The modes are labeled IV-Lydian, V-Mixolydian, VI-Aeolian, and VII-Locrian.

A great acronym to help you remeber the order of the names is:

**I** Don't **P**lay **L**ike **M**ozart **A**nd **L**iszt

28

The modes of C major are shown on a treble clef staff, starting on C4 and ascending to C5. The notes are C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C. The modes are labeled Ionian, Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Mixolydian, Aeolian, and Locrian.

The other method of learning modes is by associating and referencing them to the the major scale, in this case, C major. By starting at the same note centre we can learn the formulas for each of the seven modes with more ease, as the difference between them is noteable. Each of the modes will be compared to C major.

29 The C Major Scale C Ionian (The Major Scale)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 (1)

TAB 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10

31 The C Major Scale C Dorian

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 1 2 b3 4 5 6 b7 (1)

TAB 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10 8 10 11 8 10 7 8 10

33 The C Major Scale C Phrygian

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 1 b2 b3 4 5 b6 b7 (1)

TAB 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10 8 9 11 8 10 11 8 10

35 The C Major Scale C Lydian

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 1 2 3 #4 5 6 7 (1)

TAB 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10 8 10 7 9 10 7 9 10

37 The C Major Scale C Mixolydian (The Dominant Scale)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 b7 (1)

TAB 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10 8 10 7 8 10 7 8 10

39 The C Major Scale C Aeolian (The Minor Scale (or Natural Minor))

The C Major Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1

C Aeolian (The Minor Scale (or Natural Minor)): 1 2 b3 4 5 b6 b7 (1)

Fingerings for The C Major Scale: 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10

Fingerings for C Aeolian: 8 10 11 8 10 11 8 10

41 The C Major Scale C Locrain (The Diminished Scale)

The C Major Scale: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1

C Locrain (The Diminished Scale): 1 b2 b3 4 b5 b6 b7 (1)

Fingerings for The C Major Scale: 8 10 7 8 10 7 9 10

Fingerings for C Locrain: 8 9 11 8 9 11 8 10